

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 16878

EXDIS (DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS CHEROKEE)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PBOR PEPR EG IS US SA JO UK
SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR LONDON TALKS

REF: (A) STATE 173787, (B) STATE 175350

SUMMARY: BRIEFED MUBARAK ON OUR THOUGHTS ON LONDON
CONFERENCE SCENARIO AND FOLLOW-ON STEPS. EMPHASIZED
IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO A POSITIVE EGYPTIAN APPROACH.
KAMEL SHOULD BE PREPARED PUT SEARCHING QUESTIONS TO DAYAN
ABOUT ISRAELI POSITION AND SHOULD IN TURN BE READY ANSWER
SIMILAR SEARCHING QUERIES FROM DAYAN ON EGYPTIAN COUNTER-
PROPOSAL. MUBARAK VOICED PERSONAL VIEW OUR PROPOSED
SCENARIO IS SOUND, BUT THOUGHT IT SHOULD BE SENT TO SADAT
IN AUSTRIA FOR COMMENT AND/OR APPROVAL. AT HIS REQUEST,
I PREPARED "NON-PAPER" AND GAVE IT TO AL BAZ ALONG WITH
ORAL SUPPLEMENT. AL BAZ WILL TRANSLATE MATERIAL INTO
ARABIC AND SEND IT TO SADAT LATER TODAY. MUBARAK
THOUGHT SADAT'S REACTION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE SOMETIME
TOMORROW. ALSO BRIEFED MUBARAK AND, LATER, AL BAZ ON
SAUDI AND JORDANIAN REACTIONS TO OUR DEMARCHES ON THE
LONDON TALKS. MUBARAK SAID FAHD IS EXPECTED VISIT EGYPT
LATER THIS WEEK FOR TALKS WITH SADAT. MUBARAK CONFIRMED
THAT SADAT IS STILL EXPECTED TO RETURN JULY 14 AND THAT
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KAMEL WILL RETURN WITH HIM. WE LEFT OPEN POSSIBILITY
OF A MEETING WITH SADAT ON JULY 15, IF THE PRESIDENT
WISHES. END SUMMARY.

1. IN SADAT AND KAMEL'S ABSENCE, I MET THIS MORNING WITH
ACTING PRESIDENT MUBARAK AND WENT THROUGH IN DETAIL OUR
IDEAS ABOUT HOW THE LONDON TALKS SHOULD PROCEED AND WHAT
SHOULD COME OUT OF THEM (REF A). I EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE

OF A POSITIVE EGYPTIAN APPROACH TO THE TALKS AND THE OPPORTUNITY THAT WE BELIEVE THE TALKS WILL PROVIDE FOR EGYPT TO PENETRATINGLY PROBE ISRAELI WEST BANK/GAZA IDEAS. I AGAIN RECALLED THE TALK SADAT, MUBARAK AND I HAD AT MIT ABUL KOM OVER TWO MONTHS AGO AT WHICH TIME SADAT HAD ORDERED THAT SEARCHING QUESTIONS BE DEVELOPED FOR USE AT SUCH TIME AS THE ISRAELI ANSWERS TO OUR TWO QUESTIONS WERE AVAILABLE. I RECALLED THAT I HAD DISCUSSED THIS SEVERAL TIMES OF LATE WITH SADAT AND MUBARAK AS WELL AS WITH KAMEL AND I COULD ONLY URGE AGAIN THAT THE EGYPTIAN SIDE PREPARE ITSELF TO DO THIS KIND OF QUESTIONING. IT SHOULD ALSO EXPECT DAYAN TO ASK SIMILAR SEARCHING QUESTIONS ON THE EGYPTIAN COUNTERPROPOSAL, WHICH KAMEL AND HIS COLLEAGUES SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ANSWER. AFTER I HAD FINISHED SKETCHING OUR IDEAS OF THE CONFERENCE SCENARIO AND WHAT COMES AFTERWARDS, I SAID THAT WE WOULD WELCOME EGYPTIAN REACTION TO OUR IDEAS.

2. ALTHOUGH MUBARAK LISTENED ATTENTIVELY, IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE WAS HAVING SOME DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING SOME OF THE FINE POINTS. I THEREFORE WENT THROUGH IT AGAIN AND IN SOME INSTANCES A THIRD TIME TO BE SURE THAT HE UNDERSTOOD. HE FINALLY SAID THAT HE DID UNDERSTAND AND THAT, IN HIS PERSONAL VIEW, OUR IDEAS STRUCK HIM AS SOUND. SADAT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THEM WITHOUT DELAY, HOWEVER. HE THEREFORE ASKED FOR A PIECE OF PAPER SETTING
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FORTH OUR IDEAS IN ORDER TO SEND IT TO SADAT IN SALZBURG LATER TODAY AND TO SOLICIT THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS. HE HOPED THAT HE MIGHT HAVE A REPLY FROM SADAT SOMETIME

TOMORROW. WE AGREED THAT USAMA AL BAZ COME BY THE EMBASSY THIS AFTERNOON TO PICK UP SUCH A PIECE OF PAPER.

3. I SUBSEQUENTLY PREPARED A "NON-PAPER" BASED ON PARAS 3-11 AND GAVE IT TO AL BAZ. I ALSO GAVE HIM ORALLY SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 12 AND 13, EMPHASIZING SENSITIVITY OF THIS INFORMATION. AL BAZ HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TRANSLATE "NON-PAPER" INTO ARABIC AND SEND IT TO SADAT FOR COMMENT AND FOR APPROVAL. SINCE AL BAZ, DESPITE HIS SOMETIME UNRELIABILITY, HAS USUALLY SHOWN BROADER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED, I TOOK THE OCCASION TO IMPRESS UPON HIM THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION BEING PREPARED WITH THE KINDS OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THE LONDON TALKS CONSTRUCTIVE.

4. I ALSO BRIEFED MUBARAK(AND LATER AL BAZ)ON SAUDI AND JORDANIAN REACTION TO OUR DEMARCHES ON THE LONDON TALKS (REF B). HE WAS VERY INTERESTED, ESPECIALLY IN THE

SAUDI REACTION. HE NOTED THAT SAUD BIN FAYSAL HAS GENERALLY BEEN NEGATIVE ON THE SADAT INITIATIVE, HENCE THE EGYPTIANS HAVE PREFERRED TO TALK DIRECTLY TO PRINCE FAHD. FAHD, ACCORDING TO MUBARAK, SHOULD BE IN MOROCCO TODAY AND IS EXPECTED TO TRANSIT EGYPT FOR TALKS WITH SADAT BEFORE RETURNING TO SAUDI ARABIA LATER THIS WEEK. SADAT WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY, MUBARAK INDICATED, AGAIN TO IMPRESS UPON FAHD EGYPT'S PURPOSE IN RESPONDING POSITIVELY TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN DIRECT KAMEL/DAYAN TALKS.

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 CAIRO 16878

EXDIS (DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS CHEROKEE)

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TAGS: PGOV PBOR PEPR EG IS US SA JO UK
SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR LONDON TALKS

5. MUBARAK CONFIRMED THAT SADAT IS EXPECTED TO RETURN FRIDAY, JULY 14. KAMEL WILL RETURN WITH HIM. MUBARAK WAS NOT SURE WHETHER SADAT WILL FIRST COME TO CAIRO OR GO DIRECTLY TO ALEXANDRIA. IF IT IS THE LATTER, HE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEETING WITH SADAT AT MAAMOURA ON SATURDAY, JULY 15. TOLD HIM I WILL BE AT THE PRESIDENT'S DISPOSAL. EILTS

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